

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 22 and 25 have been amended in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicant regards as his invention. The applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated **June 4, 2004**.

Objection to the Title:

The Examiner has required a new, more descriptive title. Accordingly, the title has been changed to read: "METHOD FOR RECORDING IMAGE DATA BY SIGNAL PROCESS WITH STORAGE MEDIUM AND RECORDING PROCESS IN RECORDING MEDIUM PERFORMED IN PARALLEL, AND IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS".

Approval of this title is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 22 and 25 are objected to because of the following informalities: vague, indefinite, and an antecedent basis issue.

Taking the Examiner's comments into consideration, claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 22 and 25 have been amended. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 22 and 25 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 27 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Fukushima et al.

The present invention is a image pickup apparatus in which movie images including sound are stored in a storage medium (10) until a predetermined amount of data is reached and then transferring the image data into non-volatile recording medium (11). While the transfer is taking place, image data continues to be recorded in the storage medium.

Fukushima et al. describes an image pickup device in which information is temporarily stored and moved after a predetermined amount of information data is stored. The variable RECCNT is used to count the number of images corresponding to image data stored in memory part 6. Further as indicated in column 10, lines 37-43, "it is also possible to perform a stable, continuous-shooting recording operation without causing the buffer memories M0 to M7 of the memory part 6 to overflow and interrupting the continuous-shooting recording operation during the continuous-shooting recording mode."

According to the apparatus of Fukushima, when the count value of the image data being stored in the buffer memories exceeds the predetermined value of recording number or the predetermined value of maximum recordable number, the image data is transferred and recorded in a hard disk. The count value is reduced by the number corresponding to the number of the image data which was transferred, then, image data will be stored in the buffer memories until it again exceeds the predetermined value. On the other hand, the present invention continuously

performs a parallel recording processing for the storing medium and the recording medium after reaching the predetermined amount of the image data. Therefore, the present invention is clearly different from the method Fukushima which requires a predetermined value while processing image data.

Therefore, independent claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 22 and 25 patentably distinguish over the prior art relied upon by reciting, as exemplified by claim 1,

“A method for recording image, comprising the steps of: storing image data continuously obtained by an image pickup operation in a storage medium; measuring the amount of the image data stored in the storage medium until reaching a predetermined amount of data at the completion of the image pickup operation; and recording each piece of the image data being stored in the storage medium into a non-volatile recording medium, without pausing, interrupting or reducing the rate of recording at the time of image pickup, during the step of storing in the storage medium each piece of image data continuously obtained by the image pickup operation, after reaching the predetermined amount of data at the completion of the image pickup operation.” (Emphasis Added)

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 27 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Fukushima et al. is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 20, 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukushima et al. in view of Anderson et al.

Anderson et al. describes an image data identifier variable, an image data current location data field and a plurality of data cell “pointers” used to locate data cells. Contrary to the

Examiner's assertions, Anderson et al. does not disclose the data length of images being stored.

Therefore, for the reasons previously supplied independent claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 22 and 25 patentably distinguish over the prior art relied upon. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 20, 23 and 26 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukushima et al. in view of Anderson et al. is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 22 and 25, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,
HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



George N. Stevens
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 36,938

GNS/alw
Atty. Docket No. 991094
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



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